



NEWSLETTER

October 2018

Chairman: John New (039 681 3459) **Treasurer:** Stephen Brand (082 551 9010) **Liaison:** Pieter vd Merwe (083 543 7005)
Secretary and Records Clerk: Sean Tharratt (079 434 6168) **Scribe:** Arthur Cary (039 681 3274)
Member: Dean Angove (062 520 4975)

Preparing to cast.

A diary of SCFA events up to the beginning of December is included with this newsletter. As usual, there are also reports on last month's saltwater outing and happenings at the September monthly meeting. The planned outing to Durban Bay was cancelled by the DFT boys at the last minute, due to expected bad weather. (Steve reported that the weather in Durban on that day, was actually not too bad at all; I don't believe for one minute that DFT pulled out because they did not want to be out fished by SCFA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!) The good news is that we have scheduled another trip to Durban Bay for early November. Check the calendar below.

Hope to see many of you at our events and on the water during the month. Arthur

Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Outing</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
9 th October	Fly tying Workshop	Dean's home	18h30
14 th October	Yellowfish outing	Umzimkulu	08h30
22 nd October	Grub & travel meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00
26 th to 30 th October	Saltwater outing	St Lucia & Cape Vidal	TBA
28 th October	Saltwater outing	Southbroom estuary	06h00
31 st October	Monthly meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30
4 th November	Saltwater outing	Durban Bay	05h00
5 th November	Grub & travel meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00
9 th to 11 th November	Trout trip	Wattled Crane	TBA
13 th November	Fly tying Workshop	Dean's home	18h30
28 th November	Monthly meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30
2 nd December	Christmas outing	Steve's dam	06h00

Coming Events.

** **Fly tying workshop.** This will be held at **Dean's home on Tuesday 9th October at 18h30.** We will tie the Hare's Ear Emerger and the Surf Puff; the latter in preparation for St Lucia / Cape Vidal at the end of the month. Dean will again have the camera and TV set up, so that the audience can clearly see the various stages.

As usual you should have received the recipes for these by now. If not, contact Arthur.

** **Yellowfish outing.** Pieter has arranged to fish the Umzimkulu on **Sunday 14th October. Meet at 08h30** at the stone gate post on the road to Lake Eland, about 1 km west of the Leopard's Rock Restaurant. Bring your own eats and drinks, as we will probably stay for an early lunch.

** **Grub & travel meeting.** **Monday 22nd October at the Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club at 18h00.** This is to plan the logistics for the trip to **St Lucia / Cape Vidal on Friday 26th October.** Ken reports that the camp site at Vidal is also in a shocking state, with monkeys and lack of maintenance of the sewerage system being the major problems!

** **Saltwater outing.** For those who are not going to St Lucia, there is an outing to the **Southbroom estuary on Sunday 28th October.** Meet on the north bank at any time after 06h00.

** **Monthly meeting.** **Wednesday 31st October at the Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club. 18h00 for 18h30.** Dean will show the videos of tying the Two Tone Hot Spot Caddis and the Raymond's Minnow, which are the flies that will be judged at the November meeting.



Coming events continued:

** **Saltwater outing to Durban Bay. Sunday 4th November.** Meet at the Southport filling station at 05h00 and we will travel up in convoy. No need to bring meat for a braai, as the plan is to pop in to a local restaurant for a late brunch.

** **Monday 5th November** sees the **Grub & travel meeting** in preparation for the **trout trip to Wattled Crane on Friday 9th to 11th November.**

Past Events.

Salt water outing to Impenjati. Sunday 9th September. By Arthur Cary.

Considering that the weather forecast was a shocker, we had a fair turnout for this outing. Rain and a howling gale of over 30 kph had been predicted and at 4 am on the Sunday morning, actually seemed to be an underestimate of the wind strength.

John, Bill, Sean, Werner, Ken, Mitch and Arthur turned up to give the fish a go, while David and Marion once again came along to help carry the catch!

Fishing conditions were, to put it mildly, "Challenging," with a strong SW wind blowing from the time that we got there at 06h45. Interestingly, the gates were open, although the official opening time is 07h00.

Sean, using a # 6 Chartreuse Crazy Charlie was the first into a wave garrick, when he tried a small gully among the rocks, about 1 km north of the mouth, which was running out at a fair clip. Werner landed two of the same species on a green Charlie, before Sean came back to call John and Arthur. Werner then landed a spotted snapper and Arthur got a moony on a pink Dog's Breakfast before the shoal moved away. John managed to pin himself twice, before he gave up the unequal struggle with the wind, which by now had strengthened. The rest of us, excluding Werner, were lucky not to have suffered the same indignity, as the wind played havoc with the back cast. (Werner, being left-handed, had a distinct advantage with the wind coming over his right shoulder.) Ken, for once, did not manage to get a bite.

By the time that the group made their way back to the car-park, the spray was being whipped off the waves and the dry skin on our legs was being exfoliated by the sand-blasting action of the near-gale-force wind. Bill and Mitch had been trying, unsuccessfully, to coax fish to take their offerings in the estuary, before they too gave up, while the wind swirled around from all quarters.

It was decided to forego the usual braai and instead, we all headed home for a warm shower or bath, the latter, well laced with a liberal dose of Dettol, in an attempt to ward off the ill-effects of the foul smelling estuary water.

Flytying workshop. Tuesday 11th September.

Using Bill's video camera, coupled to his TV, Dean demonstrated tying the Copper John and Soft Calamari flies. This certainly showed the different stages in fine detail and gave John, Bill and Arthur a good idea of how to tie these fairly simple flies.

The advantages of using the camera will be more apparent when we have a bigger audience and have to tie the more complex patterns. Prospective tyers, get yourselves to the next session on Tuesday October 9th.

Monthly meeting. Wednesday 26th September. Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club.

Present: 20 members including new member Logan Hart. His CV includes being born in Kokstad, fly fishing from an early age, having trout contacts in East Griqualand and saltwater contacts in the Transkei. Welcome to the fold Logan. As always, we wish you a long and mutually beneficial ride. SCFA will certainly take you up on your offers to visit Lake Arthur and Mnyameni next year.

Apologies: Liam and Duval

Flies of the Month for September: Judged by Justin

Freshwater: Copper John: Dean, Dean, Dean, John, Bill, Arthur, David, David.

Saltwater: Soft Calamari: Bill, Arthur, Werner, Sean, Dean, Dean.

General:

1. At our monthly meeting in April, it was decided that SCFA should join FOSAF. This was duly done and Pieter brought the membership certificate along to prove that SCFA is actually now affiliated. Well done Pieter. FOSAF is on a concerted drive to increase membership (which currently stands at a country-wide paltry 600.)



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As I understand it, in order to make membership more attractive, a concession membership of R150.00 per annum is being offered (normal fees are R300.00 per year.) The KZN Chapter of FOSAF will, hopefully, have contacted SCFA by the time that we have our October monthly meeting and the committee will be able to give full details of the implications of members joining as individuals. Readers may remember, FOSAF is taking the government DEA to court over the Alien Trout saga, which has been dragging on for a number of years.

2. Ken has access to Black Lake. This bass and tilapia dam north of Impenjati, can, unfortunately only be fished during the week. Contact Ken (039 314 4262 or 083 601 9104) if you are keen to give it a go.

3. Ken also reported that David has been awarded his Karate Black Belt. Well done David. John added that David's well used priest is now up for sale, as he no longer needs it. In future, David's catches will be dispatched with a well aimed karate chop to the neck.

4. Dick suggested that we check out the possibilities of a trout trip to the Maclear district next year. He has fished the Rhodes area and reports that the scenery is absolutely stunning. The committee will bear this in mind when setting out the future calendar.

5. Steve reported that our finances are gradually recovering from the onslaught of the last few months. Well done Steve.

6. Pieter mentioned that our three juniors, Justin Ashington, Liam vd Merwe and Pieter Stroebel are fishing the Junior National Trials, hosted by Boland Fly Fishing from the 3rd to the 7th October. With a bit of luck we will get a report from them for next month's newsletter. (*Boys, consider this preparation for your upcoming English Essay exams!! Ed.*)

Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.



Bill Derman has a Mariner Stalker 21 lb thrust sneaker motor and a Navman model 4431 fish finder for sale. The two which have been adapted to work as one unit, can be used on a kick boat or on a bass boat. Both are in excellent condition. A new motor retails for close on 2 grand, while a new fishinder will set you back upwards of three, so give him a call and make an offer. Bill can be contacted on land-line 039 684 5874, cell number 084 580 0074 or e-mail <bderman@telkomsa.net>

The package comes with a guarantee that you will catch a fish on your first trout outing to Mountain Lake or to Wattled Crane, if you use both items correctly!

Mitch and Pat, if you purchase these, Bill can have the prop brazed on for you!



Sean has a selection of Cortland fly lines and a small landing net for sale. Contact him if you are interested. (079 434 6168)

Last Cast.

You will have noticed that the planned events for the next couple of months come thick and fast. This is to try and co-incide our outings with the spring tides for the salt outings and the new moon for our freshwater outings. Anglers, you will probably be in trouble with your respective spouses for attending even one event, so you may as well make it worthwhile and attend them all!!!!

I'll be out of circulation from the 11th October to the 23rd, but John and the other committee members will be able to answer for any mistakes in this newsletter!!!!!!

Cheers Arthur.

